

Proclamation 7730—National Family Caregivers Month, 2003

October 31, 2003

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Millions of Americans make extraordinary efforts every day to care for loved ones who are elderly, chronically ill, or disabled. These caregivers make many sacrifices to improve the lives of their loved ones. Through their love, dedication, and courage, these compassionate children, parents, spouses, grandparents, and extended family members strengthen and preserve the importance of family and reflect the true character of our Nation.

My Administration is supporting family caregivers in their efforts to provide comfort and support to their loved ones. The National Family Caregiver Support Program, managed by the Administration on Aging of the Department of Health and Human Services, gives family caregivers counseling, information, respite care, and supplemental services.

As we mark National Family Caregivers Month, we express our gratitude to family caregivers, and celebrate the great blessings they bring to their families and to our Nation.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2003 as National Family Caregivers Month. I encourage all Americans to honor and support family members, friends, and neighbors who assume important caregiving responsibilities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 4, 2003]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 5. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Proclamation 7728—National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, 2003

October 31, 2003

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Recent studies estimate that 4.5 million Americans are affected by Alzheimer's disease, and that more than 13 million will be affected by the middle of this century. As we seek to increase our understanding of the causes, symptoms, and effects of this disease, we recognize the victims and the family members, caregivers, and healthcare professionals who care for those afflicted with it.

Researchers have not yet discovered the cause of Alzheimer's disease, but its effects are well documented. Alzheimer's disrupts the processes that keep nerve cells in the brain healthy, resulting in a decline in cognitive abilities. Those affected by Alzheimer's disease grow increasingly dependent on others.

Alzheimer's disease has no known cure or certain treatment, but research will continue to lead us to breakthroughs that will help control the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease or eventually cure or even reverse its effects. We are supporting Alzheimer's research and helping those afflicted with the disease get care. Through the National Institute on Aging (NIA), we are funding Alzheimer's Disease Centers across the country that care for patients, improve diagnostic techniques, and participate in long-term research. The NIA also operates the Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center, which provides vital information to people with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers. In addition, scientists at the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Veterans Affairs are conducting clinical trials of drugs and enhancing overall care.

During National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, we especially thank all who care for those affected by this tragic disease. By caring for patients and continuing vital research, we strive to improve the quality of life for today's victims and enhance the health of future generations.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2003 as National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

George W. Bush

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NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 1, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on November 5.

The President's Radio Address

November 1, 2003

Good morning. This week, terrorists launched a series of attacks in Iraq. Their targets included police stations in Baghdad and Fallujah, the headquarters of the International Red Cross, and living quarters for the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad. The majority of their victims were Iraqis working to rebuild and restore order to their country and citizens of other nations engaged in purely humanitarian missions.

Some of the killers behind these attacks are loyalists of the Saddam regime who seek to regain power and who resent Iraq's new freedoms. Others are foreigners who have traveled to Iraq to spread fear and chaos and prevent the emergence of a successful democracy in the heart of the Middle East. They may have different long-term goals, but they share a near-term strategy to intimidate Iraqis from building a free government and to cause America and our allies to flee our responsibilities. They know that a free Iraq will be free of them and free of the fear in which the ideologies of terror thrive.

During the last few decades, the terrorists grew to believe that if they hit America hard,

as in Lebanon and Somalia, America would retreat and back down. Five years ago, one of the terrorists said that an attack could make America run in less than 24 hours. They have learned the wrong lesson. The United States will complete our work in Iraq. Leaving Iraq prematurely would only embolden the terrorists and increase the danger to America. We are determined to stay, to fight, and to win.

The terrorists and the Ba'athists loyal to the old regime will fail because America and our allies have a strategy, and our strategy is working. First, we are taking this fight to the enemy, mounting raids, seizing weapons and funds, and bringing killers to justice. One example is Operation Ivy Focus, a series of aggressive raids by the Army's 4th Infantry Division that in a little over a month has yielded the capture of more than 100 former regime members. In other operations, our soldiers have also seized hundreds of weapons, thousands of rounds of ammunition and explosives, and hundreds of thousands of dollars suspected of being used to finance terror operations.

Second, we are training an ever-increasing number of Iraqis to defend their nation. Today, more than 90,000 Iraqis are serving as police officers, border guards, and civil defense personnel. These Iraqi forces are also supplying troops in the field with better intelligence, allowing for greater precision in targeting the enemies of freedom. And we are accelerating our efforts to train and field a new Iraqi army and more Iraqi civil defense forces.

Third, we are implementing a specific plan to transfer sovereignty and authority to the Iraqi people. The Governing Council, made up of Iraqi citizens, has appointed ministers who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Iraqi Government. The Council has also selected a committee that is developing a process through which Iraqis will draft a new constitution for their country. When a constitution has been ratified by the Iraqi people, Iraq will enjoy free and fair elections.

All these efforts are closely linked. As security improves, life will increasingly return to normal in Iraq, and more and more Iraqis will step forward to play a direct role in the